In re Application of: Nelson et al. Application No.: 09/687,246

Filed: October 12, 2000

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PATENT Attorney Docket No.: JHU1660-1

A. AMENDMENT

Please cancel claims 52 to 64 and 65 to 75 without prejudice.

Please enter the following rewritten claims:

1. (Amended) A method for detecting a hepatic cell proliferative disorder, comprising: detecting a methylated CpG-containing glutathione-S-transferase (GST) nucleic acid in a hepatic specimen or biological fluid wherein a methylated GST nucleic acid is indicative of a hepatic cell proliferative disorder.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the promoter region is approximately -539 to -239 upstream from the start site.

50. (Amended) The method of claim 40, further comprising detecting the presence of hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus.

83. (Amended) The primers of claim 81, wherein the primers are SEQ ID Nos: 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 or any combination thereof.